

**From:** Steven Ohmert  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/25/02 7:39pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I would like to express my opinion that the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust case be accepted. I believe the remedies are sufficient. It is time for this issue to be done with. The uncertainty and disruption this case has caused in the industry is a prime contributor and belweather for the downturn of the high tech industry in the stock market. The resolution of this matter will be a significant step in the recovery of initiative and innovation that has fallen away as a result of the uncertainties.

I am not necessarily a cheerleader for Microsoft. Clearly, they have aggressively and sometimes inappropriately used their market position as a bullying tactic. I believe there are lessons to be learned from this on all sides. I believe this is addressed in the settlement. Punitive actions proposed by opponents to the settlement are drastic, vengeful, and superficial. Acceptance of the settlement sends the clear message that the US government can be a fair and final arbitrator of such situations without being a blind executioner, and cuts short the use of the system as a forum for marketing public opinion and corporate images (by both sides).

Thank you

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